

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 078806

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TBIO, EFIS, JA

SUBJECT: WHALING - US- JAPAN AGREEMENT ON OBSERVER SCHEME

1. DEPARTMENT HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DISCUSSED WITH
JAPANESE EMBASSY DESIRABILITY OF RENEWING FOR 1973 AGREE-
MENT OF LAST YEAR BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS ON OBSERVATION OF
WHALING FROM LAND STATIONS. THIS AGREEMENT EXPIRED
FEBRUARY 28. APPARENTLY GOJ PREPARED TO RENEW AGREEMENT ON
BASIS SIMILAR TO 1972 AND ON APRIL 4 PROMISED US DRAFT
TEXT PROMPTLY.

2. UNFORTUNATELY IT APPEARS WE COMPLICATED MATTER IN EARLY
STAGES BY ESPousing TWO SUGGESTIONS MADE BY US OBSERVERS
BASED ON 1972 EXPERIENCE: (A) THAT OBSERVERS BE GIVEN
GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN TERMS OF STATIONS OR GROUPS OF
STATIONS AT WHICH THEY MAY OBSERVE SO AS TO ENSURE MORE
EFFICIENT USE OF THEIR TIME, (B) THAT OBSERVERS BE GIVEN
OPPORTUNITY DURING SLACK PERIODS TO ASSIST RESEARCH
EFFORTS BY COLLECTING RESEARCH SPECIMENS FROM WHALES.

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3. GOJ APPEARS TO FIND GREAT DIFFICULTY WITH BOTH SUGGESTIONS. WE HAVE DURING MOST RECENT TWO CONVERSATIONS EMPHASIZED THAT THEY ARE SUGGESTIONS ONLY, THAT IF GOJ SEES PROBLEMS WE ARE PREPARED TO WITHDRAW THEM AND THAT MOST URGENT CONSIDERATION IS GETTING ON WITH AGREEMENT IN VIEW APPROACH OF WHALING SEASON. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK TO REEMPHASIZE URGENCY AND REITERATE THAT WE PREPARED TO DROP SUGGESTIONS MADE AND ACCEPT ARRANGEMENTS AS IN 1972. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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